IN THE CLAIMS:

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- 162. (currently amended) A biological material comprising:
- a) at least one autologous or homologous cellular line selected from the group consisting of endothelial cells, glandular cells, skin adnexa and germinative cells of hair bulbs,
- b) a biocompatible <u>and biodegradable</u> three-dimensional matrix, on which said cellular line is seeded and grown, said matrix comprising a hyaluronic acid derivative selected from the group consisting of:
 - A) an ester of hyaluronic acid wherein part or all of the carboxylic groups of said hyaluronic acid are esterified with an alcohol of aliphatic, aromatic, arylaliphatic, cycloaliphatic series;
 - B) an autocrossliked autocrosslinked ester of hyaluronic acid wherein part or all of the carboxylic moieties of said hyaluronic acid are esterified with the alcoholic groups of the same or a different hyaluronic acid chain;
 - C) a hemiester of succinic acid or a heavy metal salt of the hemiester of succinic acid with hyaluronic acid or with a hylauronic hyaluronic acid ester having part or all of the carboxy groups of hyaluronic acid esterified with an alcohol of aliphatic, aromatic, arylaliphatic, c cycloaliphatic series; and
 - D) an O-, an N-sulphated hyaluronic acid and a derivative thereof.

c)optionally collagen and/or fibrin

d) optionally autologous or homologous keratinocytes said autologous or homologous cellular line is cultivated in presence of a medium treated with <u>autologous or</u> homologous human fibroblasts or in a coculture with

autologous or homologous human fibroblasts.

- 163. (currently amended) The biological material according to claim 162 further containing keratinocytes, optionally fibrin and collagen
- 164. (previously presented) The biological material according to claim 162, wherein said endothelial cells are isolated from the umbilical vein from dermis or other tissue wherein blood vessels are present.
- 165. (previously presented) The biological material according to claim 162 wherein the glandular cells are liver or Langerhans' islet cells.
- 166. (previously presented) The biological material according to claim 162 wherein the skin adnexa are sebaceous glands, sweat glands or hair bulbs and the germinative cells are isolated from autologous or homologous hair bulbs.
- 167. (previously presented) The biological material according to claim 162, wherein the hyaluronic acid ester is a benzyl ester with a degree of esterification of between 25 and 100%.
- 168. (previously presented) The biological material according to claim 162, wherein component (b) is in the form of a non woven fabric, sponges, granules, gauzes, microspheres guidechannels or combination with one another.
- 169. (previously presented) The biological material according to claim 168 wherein component (b) is in the form of a non woven fabric.
- 170. (currently amended) A process for preparing a biological material according to claim 162 comprising the following steps:
- i) Isolating at least one autologous or homologous cellular line selected from the group consisting of endothelial cells, glandular cells, skin adnexa, and germinative cells

- of hair bulbs,
- ii) preparing a biocompatible and biodegradable threedimensional matrix, comprising at least one hyaluronic acid derivative and optionally fibrin and/or collagen,
- iii) seeding said cellular line on said matrix in the presence of <u>autologous</u> or <u>homologous</u> human fibroblasts or in a coculture with autologous or homologous human fibroblasts.
- 171. (currently amended) The process according to claim 170 wherein, when in step (i) the cellular line is selected from the group consisting of autologous or homologous skin adnexa and germinative cells of hair bulbs, the same the cellular line(a) in step (iii) are is optionally seeded in association with autologous or homologous keratinocytes.
- 172. (currently amended) A process for the preparation of the biological material according to claim $\frac{162}{164}$ comprising the following steps:
- i) isolating endothelial cells from human umbilical vein by enzymatic digestion with collagenase;
 amplifying said cells on collagen treated dishes,
- ii) preparing a biocompatible and biodegradable threedimensional matrix, comprising at least one hyaluronic acid derivative and optionally fibrin and/or collagen,
- iii) seeding said endothelial cells in association with a cellular line selected from the group consisting of glandular cells, skin adnexa and germinative cells of hair bulb and optionally in the presence of a medium treated with <u>autologous or homologous</u> human fibroblasts in primary culture or in a coculture with <u>autologous or homologous</u> human fibroblasts.
- 173. (previously presented) The biological material according to claim 162, for use in human and veterinary surgery.
- 174. (previously presented) The biological material according to claim 162 wherein component (a) comprises skin adnexa optionally in association with keratinocytes for use in skin transplants.

- 175. (previously presented) The biological material according to claim 174 wherein component (a) further comprises autologous or homologous endothelial cells facilitating the mechanism of neovascularization of the transplanted skin.
- 176. (previously presented) The biological material according to claim 162 wherein component (a) comprises germinative cells of hair bulbs for use in scalp transplants.
- 177. (previously presented) The biological material according to claim 162, wherein component (a) comprises islets of Langerhans for use in case of insufficient insulin production.
- 178. (previously presented) The biological material according to claim 162, wherein component (a) comprises endothelial cells for use in surgery.
- 179. (previously presented) The biological material according to claim 178, for use in cardiovascular, aesthetic and oncological surgery.
- 180. (previously presented) The biological material according to claim 179 for use in surgery to enhance the biological process of tissue vascularisation.
- 181.(currently amended) $\frac{A-De}{A}$ biological material according to claim 162, wherein (a) is an autologous cellular line as support for gene transfection.
- 182.(currently amended) The biological material according to claim 162, wherein (a) is an autologous cellular line for use in gene transfection.
- 183.(currently amended) An *in vitro* biological material comprising:
- a) at least one cellular line selected from the group consisting of endothelial cells, glandular cells, skin adnexa and germinative cells of hair bulbs,

- b) a biocompatible <u>and biodegradable</u> three-dimensional matrix, on which said cellular line is seeded and grown, said matrix comprising a hyaluronic acid derivative selected from the group consisting of:
- A) an ester of hyaluronic acid wherein part or all of the carboxylic groups of said hyaluronic acid are esterified with alcohols of the aliphatic, aromatic, arylaliphatic, cycloaliphatic series,
- B) an autocrossliked autocrosslinked ester of hyaluronic acid wherein part or all of the carboxylic moieties of said hyaluronic acid are esterified with the alcoholic groups of the same or a different hyaluronic acid chain,
- C) a hemiester of succinic acid or a heavy metal salt of the hemiester of succinic acid with hyaluronic acid or with a hylauronic hyaluronic acid ester having part or all of the carboxy groups esterified with an alcohol of aliphatic, aromatic, arylaliphatic, cycloaliphatic series[[,]] and
- D) an O-, an N-sulphated hyaluronic acid and a derivative thereof,

c) optionally collagen and/or fibrin

d) autologous and/or homologous keratinocytes, said cellular line being cultivated in presence of a medium treated with autologous or homologous human fibroblasts or in

a coculture with autologous or homologous human fibroblasts.

- 184.(previously presented) The biological material according
- to claim 183, containing autologous or homologous keratinocytes, collagen and/or fibrin .
- 185. (previously presented) The biological material according to claim 183, wherein said endothelial cells are isolated from the umbilical vein from dermis or other tissue wherein blood vessels are present.
- 186. (previously presented) The biological material according to claim 183, wherein the glandular cells are liver or Langerhans' islet cells.
- 187. (currently amended) The biological material according to

- claim 183, wherein the skin adnexa are sebaceous glands, sweat glands or hair bulbs and germinative cells are isolated from autologous, homologous [[,]]and heterologous hair bulbs.
- 188. (previously presented) The biological material according to claim 183, wherein the hyaluronic acid ester is a benzyl ester with a degree of esterification of between 25 and 100%.
- 189. (previously presented) The biological material according to claim 183, wherein component (b) is in the form of a non woven fabric, sponges, granules, gauzes, microspheres, guide channels or combination with one another.
- 190. (previously presented) The biological material according to claim 183 wherein component (b) is in the form of a non woven fabric.
- 191. (currently amended) A process for preparing the biological material according to claim 183 comprising the following steps:
- i) isolating at least one cellular line selected from the group consisting of endothelial cells, glandular cells, skin adnexa, and germinative cells of hair bulbs,
- ii) preparing a biocompatible and biodegradable three-dimensional matrix, comprising at least one hyaluronic acid derivative and optionally fibrin and/or collagen, seeding said cellular line on said matrix in the presence of autologous or homologous human fibroblasts or in a co-culture with autologous or homologous human fibroblasts.
- 192.(currently amended) The process according to claim 191 wherein, when in step (i) the cellular line is selected from the group consisting of skin adnexa and germinative cells of hair bulbs in step (iii), the same said cellular line is optionally seeded in association with keratinocytes.
- 193. (currently amended) A process for preparing the biological material according to claim $\frac{183}{185}$ comprising:

- i) isolating endothelial cells from human umbilical vein by enzymatic digestion with collagenase;
- ii) amplifying said cells on collagen treated dishes,
- iii) preparing a biocompatible and biodegradable threedimensional matrix, comprising at least one hyaluronic acid derivative and optionally fibrin and/or collagen,
- iv) seeding said endothelial cells optionally in association with a cellular line selected from the group consisting of glandular cells, skin adnexa and germinative cells of hair bulb and in the presence of a medium treated with autologous or homologous human fibroblasts in primary culture or in a coculture with autologous or homologous human fibroblasts.
- 194. (previously presented) The biological material according to claim 183 for the screening of medicaments or toxic substances.
- 195. (currently amended) A biological material comprising:
- a) at least one autologous or homologous cellular line selected from the group consisting of endothelial cells, glandular cells, skin adnexa and germinative cells of hair bulbs,
- b) a biocompatible <u>and biodegradable</u> three-dimensional matrix, on which said cellular line is seeded and grown, said matrix comprising a hyaluronic acid derivative selected from the group consisting of:
- A) an ester of hyaluronic acid wherein part or all of the carboxylic groups of said hyaluronic acid are esterified with alcohols of the aliphatic, aromatic, arylaliphatic, cycloaliphatic series;
- B) an autocrossliked autocrosslinked ester of hyaluronic acid wherein part or all of the carboxylic moieties of said hyaluronic acid are esterified with the alcoholic groups of the same or a different hyaluronic acid chain; and
- C) a hemiester of succinic acid or a heavy metal salt of the hemiester of succinic acid with hyaluronic acid or with a hylauronic hyaluronic acid ester having part or

all of the carboxy groups of hyaluronic acid esterified with an alcohol of aliphatic, aromatic, arylaliphatic, cycloaliphatic series,

c) optionally collagen and/or fibrin

d) optionally autologous or homologous keratinocytes
said autologous or homologous cellular line is cultivated in
presence of a medium treated with autologous or homologous
fibroblasts human or in a coculture with autologous or
autologous human fibroblasts.

- 196. (currently amended) A biological material comprising:
- a) at least one autologous or homologous cellular line selected from the group consisting of endothelial cells, glandular cells, skin adnexa and germinative cells of hair bulbs,
- b) a biocompatible three-dimensional matrix, on which said cellular line is seeded and grown, said matrix comprising an ester of hyaluronic acid wherein part or all of the carboxylic groups of said hyaluronic acid are esterified with alcohols of the aliphatic, aromatic, arylaliphatic, cycloaliphatic series,

c) optionally collagen and/or fibrin

d)optionally autologous or homologous keratinocytes said cellular line being cultivated in presence of a medium treated with autologous or homologous human fibroblasts or in a coculture with autologous or homologous human fibroblasts.

- 197. (currently amended) A biological material comprising:
- a) autologous or homologous cells belonging to at least one cell type selected from the group consisting of endothelial cells, glandular cells, skin adnexa and germinative cells of hair bulbs,
- b) a biocompatible <u>and biodegradable</u> three-dimensional matrix, on which said cells are seeded and grown, said matrix comprising a hyaluronic acid derivative selected from the group consisting of:
 - A) an ester of hyaluronic acid wherein part or all of the carboxylic groups of said hyaluronic acid are

- esterified with alcohols of the aliphatic, aromatic ,
 arylaliphatic, cycloaliphatic series;
- B) an autocrossliked autocrosslinked ester of hyaluronic acid wherein part or all of the carboxylic moieties of said hyaluronic acid are esterified with the alcoholic groups of the same or a different hyaluronic acid chain:
- C) a hemiester of succinic acid or a heavy metal salt of the hemiester of succinic acid with hyaluronic acid or with a hylauronic hyaluronic acid ester having part or all of the carboxy groups of hyaluronic acid esterified with an alcohol of aliphatic, aromatic, arylaliphatic, cycloaliphatic series[[;]] and
 - D) an O-, an N-sulphated hyaluronic acid and a derivative thereof

c) optionally collagen and/or fibrin,

d)optionally autologous or homologous keratinocytes said cellular line being cultivated in presence of a medium treated with said cellular line being cultivated in presence of a medium treated with autologous or homologous human fibroblasts or in a coculture with autologous or homologous human fibroblasts.

- 198.(currently amended) A biological material comprising:
- a) autologous or homologous cells belonging to at least one cell type selected from the group consisting of endothelial cells, glandular cells, skin adnexa and germinative cells of hair bulbs,
- b) a biocompatible <u>and biodegradable</u> three-dimensional matrix, on which said cells are seeded and grown, said matrix comprising a hyaluronic acid derivative selected from the group consisting of:
 - A) an ester of hyaluronic acid wherein part or all of the carboxylic groups of said hyaluronic acid are esterified with alcohols of the aliphatic, aromatic, arylaliphatic, cycloaliphatic series;
 - B) an autocrossliked autocrosslinked ester of hyaluronic acid wherein part or all of the carboxylic moieties of said hyaluronic acid are esterified with the alcoholic

- groups of the same or a different hyaluronic acid
 chain[[;]] and
- C) a hemiester of succinic acid or a heavy metal salt of the hemiester of succinic acid with hyaluronic acid or with a hylauronic hyaluronic acid ester having part or all of the carboxy groups of hyaluronic acid esterified with an alcohol of aliphatic, aromatic, arylaliphatic, cycloaliphatic series,

c) optionally collagen or fibrin

d) optionally autologous or homologous keratinocytes said cellular line being cultivated in presence of a medium treated with <u>autologous or homologous human</u> fibroblasts or in a coculture with autologous or homologous human fibroblasts.

- 199. (currently amended) A biological material comprising:
- a) autologous or homologous cells belonging to at least one cell type selected from the group consisting of endothelial cells, glandular cells, skin adnexa and germinative cells of hair bulbs,
- b) a biocompatible <u>and biodegradable</u> three-dimensional matrix, on which said cells are seeded and grown, said matrix comprising an ester of hyaluronic acid wherein part or all of the carboxylic groups of said hyaluronic acid are esterified with alcohols of the aliphatic, aromatic, arylaliphatic[[,]] or cycloaliphatic series,

c) optionally collagen and/or fibrin

d)optionally autologous or homologous keratinocytes said cellular line being cultivated in presence of a medium treated with autologous or homologous human fibroblasts or in a coculture with autologous or homologous human fibroblasts.